

Finding of No Significant Impact

NOBLE COUNTY SANITARY COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT BRONZE HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, VILLAGE OF CALDWELL OLIVE TOWNSHIP, NOBLE COUNTY, OHIO

SECTION 594, OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District, proposes to participate in the construction of a sanitary sewer system for the Bronze Heights Subdivision, in the Village of Caldwell, Olive Township, Noble County, Ohio, under the authority of the Ohio Environmental Infrastructure Program authorized by Congress in Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-53), as amended.

The proposed project consists of installation of a gravity fed sewage collection system with approximately 3,700 linear feet of 8-inch sewer line, 1,000 linear feet of 6-inch laterals, and 19 manholes which will connect the Bronze Heights Subdivision to an existing sewer system along County Road 56 (Fairground Road) serviced by an existing Village of Caldwell wastewater treatment facility. The new service lines will be constructed within the right-of-way of sections of County Road 58 (Bronze Heights Road), Township Road 1031, the entrance and loop road of Bronze Heights Subdivision, and along County Road 56, extending the existing sewer lines to the north 570 linear feet.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act, the local sponsor prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Pittsburgh District and consulted with the Noble County Flood Plain Administrator, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and the Ohio Historical Society in its preparation. The EA addresses the proposed action, the no action alternative, and three alternatives to address failed or failing on-lot sewage systems in the project area that are creating a public health risk and non-point source pollution to local streams. The no-action alternative would allow for the unsatisfactory continuation and progressive worsening of the current conditions that pose health and pollution risks to the region and was therefore rejected as a viable option. Two proposed alternatives included upgrading or replacing existing on-lot septic systems. One would continue the use of septic tanks alone and the other would pump the waste from the septic system to a public collection system. Due to lot size, soil characteristics, and topography, these alternatives were rejected as not feasible. Another alternative, a vacuum sewer system, was rejected due to higher maintenance and operations costs.


Potential impacts were addressed with regard to floodplains, vegetation, fish and wildlife habitat, regulated hazardous wastes, hydrology, water quality, wetlands, endangered species, cultural resources, scenic rivers, air quality, noise, and socio-economic resources. No significant environmental and cultural resources have been identified in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project. Placement of the proposed sewer line in the previously disturbed road right-

of-way and use of best construction practices will minimize any temporary or long term environmental impacts.

This project design will comply with all applicable environmental laws. Coordination under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been completed. Coordination with the Ohio Historical Society under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act has been completed. Noble County has obtained the necessary permits and approvals from the Ohio Department of Transportation, and from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

I have reasonably determined that the construction of the proposed sanitary collection system project for the Bronze Heights Subdivision, in the Village of Caldwell, Olive Township, Noble County, Ohio, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment as defined in the Council on Environmental Quality's current regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act. The preparation of an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act is not warranted. This determination precedes the Corps of Engineers' final decision concerning this proposed action. A notice of availability of this FONSI will be placed at the Caldwell Public Library, Caldwell, Ohio and on the District's website (<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil>).

27 Jun 07
Date



Stephen L. Hill
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer